



# Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre

17 Silver St  
Deception Bay Q 4508

## ANNUAL REPORT 2011

This annual report for 2011 is published to provide information about the Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre for parents/carers, young people and other interested parties. This report contains the detail mandated by the Commonwealth and State Governments and Edmund Rice Education Australia reporting requirements.

### INTRODUCTION

Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre commenced operation in 2006 and is part of a national association of forty schools which includes, in 2010, six flexible learning centres and attached outreach programs operating across thirteen sites in Queensland.

The distinctive education provided to all students is described in, *The Charter: A Proclamation of an authentic Expression of Edmund Rice Education as Applied to Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition*. This can be viewed online at <http://www.erea.edu.au/our-identity/index.cfm?loadref=175>

Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre is a co-educational Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition. It is one of, in 2011, six schools in the Edmund Rice Flexible Learning Centre Network. Attached to Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre is a mobile outreach service, called "It's Up 2 U" Caboolture, which operates in Caboolture. Also connected to Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre is the Youth + Bridge program, Deception Bay.

The philosophy of the Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre draws on the spirit and vision of Edmund Rice Education (the Christian Brothers). It has a clear commitment to social justice and stands in solidarity with disenfranchised young people of all social, cultural and religious backgrounds. The philosophy also has a practical focus, based in the application of four core principles of "Respect" (for self, others and environment), "Safe and Legal" environment, "Participation" (have a go) and "Honesty" (being fair dinkum) among all participants of the Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre. This is evident in the ways the organisational culture and practices are shaped through the application of these principles. In essence, the principles establish a "common ground" among staff, students and parents, a collective forum, where the means to resolve conflict, negotiate learning, recognise rights, responsibilities and consequences are modelled and explored, both within the group, and individually and as members of the broader community.

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## Future outlook

The 2008 Melbourne Declaration on the Education Goals for Young Australians states that “Australian Governments commit to working with all school sectors to

- ‘Close the gap’ for young indigenous Australians
- Provide targeted support to disadvantaged students
- Focus on school improvement in low socioeconomic areas”

Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre works with young people who are vulnerable and experience a complexity of inter-related needs. As discussed above, participation and retention are key elements in the philosophy of Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre and the development of moral reasoning through the application of the four principles prepares students for responsible citizenship. The learning experiences also build self-confidence and esteem in students, promote an optimistic view of their potentialities and future, and assist them to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to enjoy a healthy and fulfilling life.

Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre offers an inclusive and non-discriminating learning community to young people, who for a variety of reasons, are marginalised from mainstream education. Students are enrolled from both genders, from a variety of language, cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds, with particular sensitivity to indigenous culture, and from backgrounds of socio-economic disadvantage. Students are exposed to learning experiences that develop understanding and appreciation of diverse cultural values that constitute Australian society. Learning is focused around the individual needs of students and progress is carefully documented and monitored. Students, in conjunction with their teachers, youth workers and education support workers, discuss career aspirations and draft learning plans with articulated pathways to further education and/or vocational education and training.

### **PASTORAL CARE PROGRAM**

Each young person at Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre has a Pastoral Care team with a staff leader working with approximately 10 young people. In the *It's Up 2 U* Outreach program, Caboolture, this team is made up of the two teachers who work each day with the 15 young people who are enrolled in the Outreach program. At the Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre site this pastoral care team is called Big Ears as the staff leader is there to listen to and support young people in facing life's challenges. This staff member is chosen by the young person. The role of the staff leader is to establish a close relationship with the young person, to monitor their progress, to advocate on their behalf, to provide advice, direction and support during difficult personal issues, and overall to support the young person to achieve their stated personal and educational goals. The role of this Big Ears group is broad in scope, in-depth in its substance, and long-term in relationship. It includes:

- In-house mentoring and advocacy
- Supporting the young people and their families in times of emotional crisis or practical need
- Maintaining the close partnership between school, student and parent/carer

- Working in partnership with other agencies who are involved with students e.g.CYMHS, Dept of Communities, Youth Justice etc
- Supporting and mentoring young people who live independently
- Helping students to build capacity and resilience in social and emotional aspects of their lives
- Informally helping young people develop positive self-concept
- Supporting young people with issues of drug misuse and self harm
- Networking with other agencies such as Youth and Family Services to provide specialist assistance e.g. family mediation, counselling, anger management

The Pastoral Care program also includes the support work of the School Counsellor, School Chaplain, the Youth Worker, onsite Child Protection Officers, the Head of Campus and access to the Network Child Protection Coordinator as required.

The total 2011 enrolment of the Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre in full time equivalent students is shown below.

<b>Year Level</b>	<b>Students</b>
<b>8</b>	10
<b>9</b>	21
<b>10</b>	30
<b>11</b>	30
<b>12</b>	17
<b>Total</b>	108

## **CURRICULUM**

The aim of the Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre is to respond to the complex needs of disenfranchised young people who have been marginalised from mainstream education. The Centre achieves its aim by building honest and authentic relationships with students and their families, supporting and celebrating the uniqueness and dignity of each individual student. The Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre provides holistic learning experiences that address the social needs of students, and promotes their emotional, cognitive, spiritual and academic development. The purpose of the learning experiences is to empower young people to take personal responsibility for their actions and learning, achieve greater autonomy and self-reliance and to engage in the transition to further education and/or employment.

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individual needs of students and progress is carefully documented and monitored. Students, in conjunction with their teachers, youth workers and education support workers, discuss career aspirations and draft learning plans with articulated pathways to further education and/or vocational education and training.

Subjects offered at various year levels include:

<b>Year 8/Year 9</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11 &amp; 12</b>
Literacy	Literacy	English Communication
Numeracy	Numeracy	Pre-Vocational Maths
Science	Science	S.A.C.S.
Careers	Cert I Work Education	Religion and Ethics
Manual Arts	Manual Arts	Recreation
Community Access	Community Access	Industrial Technology
Sport/Recreation	Recreation	Literacy & Numeracy
Music	Music	Cert I Information Technology
Service Learning	Service Learning	Cert I Business
Life Skills	Life Skills	Senior Music
Creative Arts	Creative Arts	Service Learning
Program electives	Work Experience	Cert I Work Education
	Program electives	Program electives

Diagnostic testing is utilised to support young people in class placement, subject selection and developing personal learning plans. Small class sizes are maintained to optimise the learning environment for each individual.

Young people make choices around their participation in the school curriculum and engage in activities that contribute to their intellectual, social and spiritual development.

Monday and Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning program electives give young people an opportunity to engage across year levels in activities including Dance, Gardening, Cooking, Skate 'n' BMX, Board Games, Kulture Konnect, Sport, Art & Craft, Hospitality, Workshop, 'Avago, Tutorials Music recording and Instrumental Music.

## **OUTCOMES**

### **APPARENT STUDENT RETENTION RATE**

<b>Senior cohort Year</b>	<b>Year 8 Base</b>	<b>Year 12 at exit</b>	<b>Retention Rate %</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>170</b>

The apparent retention rate is impacted by the nature of our enrolment processes as young people are more likely to refer to our program in year 9 after first attempting year 8 at a mainstream high school.

## SCHOOL ENROLMENT TREND 2006 - 2010

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
School Enrolment	36	57	71	93	105

The school commenced in 2006 and enrolment has steadily grown across that period of time.

## ATTENDANCE RATE

The average student attendance rate for 2011 was 85%. This number excludes students who terminated enrolment during the year or who were absent for extended explained absences.

Outcomes for Year 12 Students	
Total number of Senior Certificates awarded	1
Percentage of Overall Position (OP) – eligible students with OP 1 – 15	0%
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates and/or awarded a Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification	59%
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates with OP – eligibility or awarded a Vet qualification	6%
Percentage of Queensland tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer.	12%
The median score for OP - eligible students	n/a

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS THAT PRODUCE IMPROVED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

In 2011 Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre provided a number of special programs that helped improve outcomes for young people at our centre. These programs included the following:

- Development of the Work Readiness Program to support young people transitioning to the workforce.
- Employment of a part-time guidance counsellor to support young people.
- Regular morning meetings run by young people to establish practices for the day, discuss current affairs and reflect on young peoples' achievements.
- The provision of socially engaging afternoon programs encouraging skill development and social interaction in a less formal setting.
- Service Learning program involving partnership with local schools and community agencies.
- "Big Ears" groups with a staff leader facilitating the development of strong interpersonal relationships giving young people a voice and chance to be heard.

- Specialised “Literacy and Numeracy” program to better support the diverse learning needs of young people.
- Junior Life Skills program to improve self esteem, resiliency, and social coping strategies.
- Provision of a parents room to help pregnant young women/young parents achieve their educational goals in a supportive environment
- The Community Access program saw young people visiting a number of work places and community organisations exposing them to a wide variety of opportunities and potential career paths.
- Awards were distributed to young people in the following areas: Learning/Subject Awards, Participation, Service Learning, Following the Principles, Encouragement Awards, Community Leadership and ADF Exemplary Leadership Awards.

## YEAR 12 COHORT 2010 POST SCHOOL DESTINATION

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2011 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about the post school destinations of our students will be posted to our website by 30 September, 2011. The following interim data reports the destinations of students as accurately as the school is able to ascertain at this point.

School Year – 2011	Number of Students in each category	Percentage of Students in each category
University (degree)	1	6%
VET total ( Cert IV+ III, I-II, apprenticeship, traineeship)	10	59%
Working full-time	3	18%
Working part-time/casual	9	53%
Seeking work	4	24%
Full time Apprenticeship	1	6%
Further study eg. TAFE	2	12%
Returned to school (VPR)	2	12%

## CO CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre provides extensive opportunities for students to participate in co curricular activities at their level and within their areas of interest. Participation is encouraged. The broad range of opportunities or choices for students includes activities that are described as cultural, sporting, intellectual and or service related.

Monday and Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning program electives give young people an opportunity to engage across year levels in activities including Dance, Gardening, Cooking, Skate 'n' BMX, Board Games, Kulture Konnect, Sport, Art & Craft, Hospitality, Workshop, 'Avago, Tutorials, Tae kwon do, Music recording and Instrumental Music.

In partnership with Deception Bay State School, young people from Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre helped with community barbecues on Wednesday mornings each week

Excursions undertaken by Young People in 2011 included:

- Nova 106.9 studio tour
- Try-a-trade Excursion
- Sorry Day Commemoration to Ted Smout Bridge and Decker Park
- Princess Party
- Be Inspired Day at Beachmere
- FIER Festival, Nudgee College
- Brisbane City
- Ten Pin Bowling
- Ice Skating
- Bribie Island beach expeditions
- Boondall Wetlands Canoeing expedition
- V8 Super Cars at the Gold Coast
- Caboolture Regional Environment Education Centre
- Osprey House
- Deception Bay Library
- Port of Brisbane
- Hornibrook Bridge
- Caboolture Careers Expo
- Landsborough Historical Museum
- State Emergency Services
- Brisbane Airport
- Caloundra Beaches
- Glasshouse Mountains bushwalking experiences
- Various skate parks including GC Compound and Ramp Attack

Experiential learning experiences in 2011 included a School Snow Tour to Sydney, Canberra, and the Snowy Mountains. The Caboolture Outreach program enjoyed a 6 day adventure to Carnarvon Gorge National Park and overnight camp at Deer Reserve.

## **STAFF DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES 2011**

Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre is committed to the ongoing professional development and formation of staff. This continues to enrich the educational opportunities provided for our students and models to our young people the modern

reality of life long learning. The following priorities were identified in the Centre's 2011 Operational Plan:

- Whole Staff Formation Days
- Child Protection Training
- Operational Planning
- Strategic Planning
- New Staff Induction
- Curriculum Planning
- Reflective Practices
- First Aid and Training
- Spiritual Director Training
- Campus Minister Training Days
- SAS Moderation
- QSA Reporting Practices
- Head of Campus Meetings and Conferences
- Mental Health Training
- Restorative Justice Training
- Lexia Computer Software Literacy Program Training
- Cert IV in Careers Training
- Cert IV Trainer and Assessor training
- Food and Hygiene Training

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2011 was 100% with.

The average amount spent per teacher in 2011 on professional learning was \$1500. The total including Outreach staff was \$8,777.

## **THE SOCIAL CLIMATE OF THE CENTRE**

One hallmark of Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre is the very real climate of compassionate care evident. This is expressed through:

- A commitment by all to operate by the principles of respect, honesty, being safe and legal, and participation.
- A relationship-based approach to learning and interacting.
- Valuing the rights and dignity of all individuals within our community.
- A belief that conflicts and problems can be resolved by talking and negotiation.

- An understanding by all that bullying and misuse of power by anyone in the school community is not acceptable.
- Solution focussed processes that encourage young people to take responsibility for their actions, empowering them to control their future.
- Encouragement of young people to take initiative; to raise issues of concern to them; to challenge other young people and staff in following the four principles; to negotiate what they learn and how they want to learn it; to be active participants in all that they experience in their time at Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre.
- Regular “Big Ears” sessions provide young people with direct access to a willing listener on a daily basis to help them face life’s challenges.
- Fundraising events to support people in crisis (eg victims of environmental loss)
- A full time youth worker assists young people in dealing with difficult family and social issues.
- The employment of a part-time school counsellor in 2011 has greatly contributed to the support offered young people and families.

## **STRATEGIES USED FOR INVOLVING PARENTS / CARERS IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR YOUNG PERSON.**

Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre recognises that parents are the primary educators of their children. The work of the Centre is most successful when it collaborates effectively with parents. Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre supports and encourages this role of parents through:

- Invitation to regular BBQ’s and special events
- Attendance at the Official Opening of our school hall
- Distribution of information letters
- Engagement in developing Personal Learning Plans for all young people
- Production of newsletters
- Advisory Group meetings
- The production and distribution of subject selection forms
- Feedback forms and surveys
- Parent/caregiver interviews
- Social celebrations and
- The voluntary contribution of distinctive skills and enthusiasm of parents.

Parents/Caregivers are also included in the education of our young people via formal and informal meetings and regular phone conversation. The contributions of the parents/caregivers in our community are gratefully acknowledged and celebrated.

## STAFF

The staff of Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre is a highly qualified, experienced and generous group of professionals who consistently contributes more than would otherwise be expected both within the classroom and beyond. The distinctive skills / qualifications and experience of our staff include:

<b>Total number of teachers</b>	8
<b>Total number of Support staff</b>	7
<b>Total Number of Staff</b>	15

<b>Teaching Staff Qualifications</b>	<b>Number</b>
Certificate	3
Diploma	8
Post Graduate Diploma	1
Masters Degree	1
Doctorate	
Other	

The average attendance rate for teachers in the 2011 academic year was 89%. This figure reflects a low rate of sick leave among the staff. This figure does not include staff absent from classes attending professional development activities or who would have been replaced whilst on other forms of leave such as long service or maternity leave. The effect of an absent staff member, for an extended period due to extenuating circumstances has been eliminated from this calculation as he was replaced by a contract teacher.

The teaching staff retention rate expressed as a percentage is 100%. This indicates the percentage of teachers who have continued service at the school from 2010 into 2011.

## INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

In recent times, substantial change has occurred in the provision of computer hardware and software for students and staff. Professional development continues to enhance the skills of staff in this important facet of learning. Information management has become a critical literacy. Integration of technology within all subjects continues to evolve across the variety the school's subject offerings.

2011 saw further rollout of the 1 to 1 computers for secondary students under the federal government's Digital Education Revolution. Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre integrated the use of laptops, notebooks, i-Pads and Apple Macs across the school curriculum.

Information Technology (Cert 1) was also offered to young people in 2011.

## **FUNDING SOURCES**

School income broken down by funding source is available in the “My School Website” visit <http://www.myschool.edu.au> .

## **PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS FOR THE 2012 YEAR**

The Edmund Rice Education Flexible Learning Network Board and Leadership team recognise the value of strategic planning for the long term, sustainable development of programs, capital and human resources, the minimisation of exposure to risks and to assist fidelity of operation to mission. Operational goals are set each year in consultation with staff. The following outlines achievements in reaching goals in 2011 articulated in the 2010 Annual Report.

- Enrolments stabilised (and slightly increased) whilst integrity of enrolment processes for young people disengaged from education was maintained.
- Employed a part time Psychologist/Counsellor
- Officially Opened P21/BER funded Multi-purpose Area
- Continued Diagnostic Testing/Screening of all young people
- Further developed the Junior Numeracy and Literacy Programs
- Consolidated of Senior Curriculum Pathways
- Refined and improved the Work Readiness program
- Continued to strengthen pastoral relationships within our community
- Improved community connections with local service providers
- Developed Parents Program in partnership with Boystown for semester1.
- Extensive fundraising undertaken for snow experience for young people
- Development of ‘Avago program and service learning opportunities

## **GOALS FOR THE 2012 YEAR**

In 2012 emphasis will be given to:

- Enrol and integrate 40+ new young people into the Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre community
- Consolidate relationship with Murrijabree and work in partnership to provide opportunities for indigenous young people (investigate grants)
- Develop PEASOUP (Peaceful Environmental Action Saving Our Unique Planet) Poultry and Produce Project – secure \$5,000 grant from BP to build chicken coop and vege gardens for produce for community breakfasts at Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre and DBSS.
- Develop Art program and design and construct sustainability-themed murals around the school as part of the PEASOUP project
- Installation of Solar panels as part of the National Schools Solar project – education of our community around eco-justice and sustainability
- Establish Junior Quota Club (supported by North Lakes Quota Club)

- Develop Work Readiness Program to enhance pathways/support for young people transitioning into the workforce - Connect and stabilise relationship with CRS Australia to assist this process.
- Develop partnership with AIYA (Australian Indigenous Youth Academy) to deliver Cert III in Community recreation to young people in Yr 10 and/or 11
- Redefine roles and responsibilities of staff team – particularly with School Counsellor role providing further support of young people.
- Review leadership structure and investigate provision of Associate Head of Campus role.

## **2011 MILESTONES**

2011 began with our community responding to the needs of others in helping clean up in the wake of the Brisbane floods. With another enthusiastic group of young people joining us, we also welcomed aboard a new Manual Arts teacher and saw the workshop come alive. The official opening of our new Multi-purpose Area by Yvette D'Ath MP was a significant term 1 highlight with many guests joining us to celebrate this special occasion.

Term 2 saw the focus shift to community events with our commemoration of National Sorry Day. Young people and staff walked halfway across Ted Smout Bridge as a sign of respect that the road to reconciliation is only partway there. Traditional games, music and a BBQ followed in Decker Park. We also saw young people receiving Athletics certificates, participating in flexible learning programs and successfully transitioning to other learning programs, fulltime apprenticeships and the workforce.

The most event-filled term in Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre's history saw Term 3 culminate with 23 members of our community heading off on an overland odyssey to Sydney, Canberra and the Snowy Mountains. Travelling over 3000km, across three states and one territory, staying in Newcastle, Gundagai, Falls Creek and Dubbo, visiting the iconic Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge, Parliament House and the Tent Embassy in Canberra, seeing snow fall for the first time, enjoying snow ball fights, building snowmen, eating snow (not the yellow stuff!!!), playing articulate, watching ping pong ball antics, eating like kings and queens, and learning a new skill to become 'pro' snowboarders and skiers; it truly was a life-changing adventure of 'mega' proportions. We are extremely proud of the young people who represented our community so respectfully and are so thankful to the entire Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre staff team for making it possible.

Perhaps the most rewarding aspect of this adventure however was the inspiring manner in which our community worked together to raise money for young people to attend. The Big Gig on Friday 12 August saw the stars in our community shine as over 250 fans flocked to our new hall to see Adventureland and Impossible Odds bring the house down (nice work Sam and Fred!). The young people who performed were also highly entertaining with Riley's band, Timmie's rapping and Jace's crumping proving

particularly popular with the enthusiastic audience. Another fundraising event saw staff and young people working flat out to sell over 600 sausages at Bunnings, Rothwell.

Term 3 also saw us welcome Lia Panarello to our family in her role as school counsellor. She has been a wonderful addition to our staff team providing young people with much needed support in so many ways. We said farewell to Nat heading off on maternity leave and employed Daniel ‘Robbo’ to take over her classes.

We also welcomed new bubs into our community, and it was encouraging to see our young people stepping up to the responsibilities of parenthood whilst remaining committed to achieving their educational goals.

Other highlights of an event-filled term 3 included:

- Our staff team attending the Flexible Learning Centre Network staff gathering at the University of Queensland
- Another 15 young people successfully transitioned into our community
- The ‘Be Inspired’ day at Beachmere as Brother Mick brought young people together to share their stories
- The Personal Learning Plan Day focusing on young people’s educational journey
- Visit to Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre by Edmund Rice Education Australia Deputy Principals from across Australia
- Caboolture Outreach’s Carnarvon Gorge Camping Experience a colossal success
- Our new Police Liaison Officer Sen Sgt Aaron Caldwell visiting to chat with young people
- Young people participating in a diverse range of recreational activities including Ice-skating, Netball, Cone Ball, Skate Scoot n BMX, and Tae Kwon Do
- Successful Science Experiments seeing healthy plants (and proud young people) blooming
- Harvesting tasty vegies from our new Bunnings-donated vegie gardens for use in our tuckshop fare
- Graffiti Art and other exciting activities in the final week of term for young people not ‘on tour’

In term 4 we wrapped up the biggest year to date, in the relatively short history of Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre with the successful graduation of 23 seniors, many of whom had been with us since Year 8. Our Awards Ceremony and Senior Formal Celebration marked a significant milestone in the lives of the young people in our community with one of our graduating seniors reflecting that;

*‘Over the past two years of being here (at Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre) my life has changed dramatically. Getting my Senior Certificate is something that I thought was completely out of the question for me, but with the help and encouragement of the amazing staff here I have completed it. Finishing year 12 has shown me that I am capable of a lot more than I think I am, and has inspired me to dream bigger with what I want to do with my life.’*

In a massive year that flew by we: welcomed new young people, staff (Luke Doyle, Lia Panarello and Daniel Robinson) and babies into our community; officially opened our new million dollar hall; participated in exciting excursions to skate parks, trade training days, Princess Parties, beaches, Ice-skating, Ten Pin Bowling, the Glasshouse Mountains, Carnarvon Gorge and water parks; engaged in interesting classes in which young people learnt new skills, earned Athletics certificates, wrote resumes, painted masterpieces, discussed the meaning of life, filmed zombies, grew plants, took photos, kicked footies, threw balls at cones and built chopping boards, coffee tables and picnic tables; shared a little joy-filled magic together in our program electives; hung out and skipped at break times together; attended school summits, leader days and pastoral events; learnt from special guests who taught us Tae Kwon Do, AFL skills, NRL skills and how to 'save-a-mate'; hosted many visitors to our site keen to see 'how we roll'; celebrated birthdays together (including some pretty big ones!); we united in solidarity to say 'Sorry' as we walked across the Ted Smout Bridge in a spirit of reconciliation; travelled over 3000km across three states and one territory through Sydney and Canberra to see SNOW for the first time as we became 'pro' boarders and skiers in the magnificent Snowy Mountains; worked together as a community to raise money for this tour with our Bunnings BBQ and Big Gig Fundraisers; rocked and hip-hopped to Adventureland and Impossible Odds at the Biggest Gig Ever!; helped keep our community looking good in 'Avago and Friday clean up sessions; cooked for others at the DBSS brekky program; cooked for our community in our very own Big Brekkies and tuckshop with Geri; and made an ongoing commitment to ourselves and each other as we worked with the four principles of Respect, Participation, Safe & Legal and Honesty, so everyone in our community can feel safe to achieve their goals and dreams.

It truly was an event-filled 'coming-of-age' year as we shared the high and lows of life together. We hope that as young people graduate from our community that we have taught them to embrace life, dream big and to enjoy dancing in the rain! Stay safe and hope-filled! DC

*"Don't wait for the storm to pass, learn to dance in the rain"*



Dave Coghlan  
Head of Campus  
Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre



Tim Young  
Principal  
Flexible Learning Centre Network